



HAMPDEN TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
HAMPDEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MINUTES

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 12, 2021

6:00 P.M.

*In Attendance:*

*Mayor Shelby Wright  
Councilor Eric Jarvi  
Councilor Mark Cormier  
Councilor Ivan McPike  
Councilor Allen Esposito  
Councilor Peter Erickson  
Councilor Christine Cubberley*

*Paula Scott, Town Manager  
Gayle C. Decker, Town Clerk  
Christian Bailey, Public Works Director  
Jason Lundstrom, Deputy Fire Chief  
Clifton Ilver, Town Planner  
Other Members of the Public*

*Deputy Mayor Jarvi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- C. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Council discussion on changing public notice requirements, *requested by Councilor Erickson.*

*There was no discussion. This agenda item was tabled for a subsequent workshop.*

- b. Council discussion on inflow and infiltration fee request to be added to sewer bills, *requested by Victor Smith, Public Works Director.*

*Town Manager Scott stated that as we all know infiltration and inflow has been a huge topic of conversation over the last couple of years and that Victor has been doing some research and contacting other towns. A model that he found that he thought might work for Hampden was actually from the city of Ellsworth, where they've added an inflow and infiltration fee to each quarterly sewer bill. And that fee remains on the quarter on the sewer bill until such time as the property owner allows an inspection by the sewer department to determine that cellar drains are not being piped into our sewer. Once we're able to inspect, then that fee comes off. Victor is recommending that we consider adding this to the fees ordinance when the time comes to review the fees ordinance, which is coming right up, we typically do it October and that's basically the catalyst for this request. Council consensus is to move this to the next Council Meeting for full consideration.*

- c. Council discussion on Proposed Stormwater Ordinance.

*Town Manager Scott spoke on the recent rain events and that they wreaked havoc on some of our resident's cellars, with regard to their cellar drains that are discharging into our stormwater system have backed up. There's four people that we have had legitimate complaints from in the form of letters or emails. In researching this, it was discovered that in 1992, the Town Council signed a resolution basically saying that any resident who hooks*

**Note: Council will take a five-minute recess at 8:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

*into the town's stormwater system has to do so at their own risk. The storm water systems are put there in place so that when there is winter snow build up, the melting and the freezing and the melting and the freezing that often goes across the roads won't cause as much damage to the roads themselves and also won't pose so much of a risk hazard for accidents. And I guess back in the 90s, they all had ditches pretty much until they discovered that there was a lot of this damage to the roads and that was when they started installing a closed stormwater system which is basically drainpipe. So, because of the situation with the recent rain events that have caused damage to some residents cellars, by way of flooding, which according to our insurance company we're not liable for based on case law. But we're looking to strengthen the resolution that was put forth in 1992 and create an actual ordinance to address this problem. Consensus of Council is to have staff put together an ordinance for consideration as soon as possible.*

- d. Council discussion on Pilot Programs vs Service Charges Ordinance, requested by David Johnson, Deputy Treasurer.

*Council authorized staff to move ahead with amendments to the Service Charges Ordinance and the appropriate public hearing.*

- e. Council discussion regarding Manning Mill Bridge emergency response.

*Town Manager Scott gave a recap on the Manning Mill Bridge. The three items that were identified by Engineers were the scour and undermining at pier 2, the steel protective coating failure and the steel section loss. Those are considered very critical. It got her thinking about how we might be able to provide adequate fire service to the residents on the other side of the bridge because the equipment that we have is quite a bit over the load rating for the bridge. She did some research and met with Deputy Chief Lundstrom, Chief Bailey and Victor. They brainstormed a whole lot of ideas from calling other towns to the base to utilizing airplanes and just trying to determine. They talked about a Bailey bridge, which is basically a temporary bridge and we can't do that because of the permitting needed by the DPW. They talked about putting in a temporary road across adjoining property and utilizing the former old carriage trail that was there. That would require a lot of time it would require easements and it would be expensive to build. And we'd be no further off than we are right now. In waiting for the two years for the bridge to be complete. So, she asked deputy chief Lundstrom to try to find a truck that might serve purpose for fighting fire on the other side of that bridge. After discussion Council recommendation is for staff to consider going ahead with proposal for vote at the next council meeting*

- f. Council discussion on the sale of town owned property, identified as map 5 lot 48, to the immediate abutter Robert Meyers for the purpose of gaining proper set back.

*Town Manager Scott spoke that the Assessor discovered that this lot was listed as an original base lot. A base lot is inaccurate for this application because it was town owned land that was solely for the purpose of an open space requirement in a subdivision and it could never be built on. So, classifying the lot correctly it would be considered a rear lot or side lot and that would reduce the value in the system to \$2100.00. She wanted the Council to know the accurate assessed value and that the property could never be built on. Council consensus is to take to next Council meeting to entertain the proposal for the sale of this property.*

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MONDAY

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6:30 P.M.

AGENDA  
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D. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gayle C. Decker, Town Clerk

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